



Newsletter on the  
Latest Technologies  
Developed by RTRI

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# Railway Technology Avalanche

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## International Activities of the Railway Technical Research Institute

### Masao UCHIDA

Executive Director (International Affairs)

(Mr. Uchida assumed responsibility for international affairs at RTRI in April 2007.)

Since its establishment two decades ago in December 1986, RTRI has promoted basic and practical research in railway technology, achieving developments and improvements in such areas as railway safety and reliability, high-speed services, ride comfort, cost reduction for rolling stock and infrastructure, noise and vibration reduction along tracks, energy conservation, global environmental protection, and superconducting magnetically levitated transport system (Maglev).

Our R&D activities include joint research projects with railway operators and research organizations in other countries, and we collect and share information with them. RTRI researchers and staff also present papers at international conferences. The following touches on some of our recent international activities and plans.

- We participate on an ongoing basis in joint research projects with the French national railways (SNCF) and railway research institutes in China and Korea. We also conduct joint research with a number of universities overseas.
- We send specialists to participate in conferences sponsored by Japan's Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport — the conferences bring together rail transport specialists from the United States, Britain, China, Korea, India and other countries. We are also cooperating in overseas high-speed railway projects promoted by the Ministry and Japan Railway Technical Service (JARTS).
- We send staff to the International Union of Railways (UIC) to obtain information on global rail transport trends (especially in Europe), to conduct studies and surveys, and to establish cooperative links with specialists and organizations. We also plan to strengthen our ties with railways in other parts of Asia.



- We are assisting in preparations for the 8<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Railway Research (WCRR) to be held in Seoul, Korea in May 2008, and are actively encouraging staff from RTRI and the JR group of companies to submit papers there.
- We publish this Newsletter and the Quarterly Report of RTRI, both of which are English journals explaining RTRI's achievements in research and development. This information is available online and we invite you to make use of it.

Through these and other international activities, RTRI will continue contributing to the development and advancement of railway technology worldwide.

内田雅夫